

Message Text

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17

ACTION ORM-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 SR-02 SCA-01 AID-20 HEW-08

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-03 IO-14 OMB-01 TRSE-00 INSE-00 SAM-01

SAJ-01 NIC-01 SS-20 NSC-07 L-03 H-03 VO-03 DRC-01

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R 130831Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2004

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O.11652: NA

TAGS: SREF, BE

SUBJECT: EX-SOVIET JEWS IN BELGIUM AWAITING RESETTLEMENT

1. BELGIAN AND INTERNATIONAL PRESS HAS NOTED SITUATION OF UP TO 600 JEWS NOW IN BELGIUM WHO EMMIGRATED FROM SOVIET UNION TO ISRAEL AND THEN SOUGHT OTHER HOMELANDS. NUMBER SAID BY PRESS TO BE GROWING BY TENS DAILY DUE TO REFUSAL BY FRANCE, WEST GERMANY AND ITALY TO PERMIT THEM TO STAY. MOST SAID TO BE WAITING FOR PERMISSION TO ENTER US OR CANADA, AND ALL SAID TO BE VERY RELUCTANT DISCUSS THEIR DEPARTURE FROM ISRAEL OR PRESENT SITUATION FOR FEAR OF PREJUDICING THEIR SECURITY.

2. INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION ON EUROPEAN MIGRATION (ICEM)

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REP INFORMED US THAT CARITAS AND TOLSTOY FOUNDATION HAVE

REGISTERED 450 EX-SOVIET JEWS BETWEEN THEM AND THAT THESE SEEKING SETTLEMENT IN THE US AND CANADA. AN ESTIMATED 100 OTHERS HAVE NOT BEEN REGISTERED BY THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AS THESE CLAIM TO BE RUNNING OUT OF MONEY DUE TO AN INTERRUPTION OF US FUNDING. MOST OF THE REFUGEES HAVE AN ISRAELI LAISSEZ PASSER.

3. EX-SOVIET JEWS HAVE BEEN GATHERING IN BELGIUM IN RECENT MONTHS BECAUSE ICEM REP CONFIRMED TO US THAT ITALY, GERMANY AND FRANCE REFUSED TO ADMIT THEM. BELGIUM HAS BEEN WILLING TO DO SO.

4. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN BELGIUM HAVE NOT MADE RAPID PROGRESS WITH PROCESSING THE EX-SOVIET JEWS BECAUSE, AMONG OTHER REASONS, THEY ARE OVERWHELMED BY INFLUX. WE WERE INFORMED BY INS FRANKFURT SEPT. 12 THAT NOT A SINGLE APPLICATION FOR REFUGEE STATUS HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM BELGIUM FOR THE LATEST GROUP IN QUESTION. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFO WHICH WOULD PERMIT US TO RESPOND TO BELGIAN GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL PRESS INQUIRIES. FIRESTONE

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Message Attributes

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